

Office of Congressman Charles W. Dent
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Easton Housing Authority receives \$20 million
HOPE VI grant
Congressman Dent touts program's reauthorization

EASTON — U.S. Rep. Charlie Dent (PA-15) joined Sen. Rick Santorum in announcing that the Easton Housing Authority is a recipient of a \$20 million Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) HOPE VI grant. HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson was on hand to make the presentation.

“The impact of this Hope VI investment will be extraordinary, and can be a catalyst for the entire South Side Easton community,” Congressman Dent said. “The community rallied together to support the Delaware Terrace project. I was proud to add my endorsement and I greatly appreciate HUD’s investment in Easton.”

The Hope VI program targets severely dilapidated public housing units to create secure and progressive neighborhoods. HOPE VI projects work to promote self sufficiency among its residents, as well as new partnerships between local agencies and businesses.

Last week in the House, Congressman Dent (PA-15) spoke on behalf the HOPE VI Reauthorization Act of 2006, H.R. 5347, which will reauthorize \$60 million in funding for the U.S. Housing and Urban Development’s revitalization program for FY2007.

“I believe it is critical that we continue to provide the means for revitalization of our most distressed neighborhoods, and the opportunity for families and children to prosper in secure neighborhoods,” Congressman Dent said.

In May 2005, the Allentown Housing Authority received \$20 million from the HOPE VI program for the redevelopment of the Hanover Acres and Riverview Terrace public housing facilities. Once complete, the newly developed Hanover Acres will include 322 housing units, including apartments and homeownership units. Residents will also have use of a new community center and access to adult education services and youth programs. Congressman Dent recently presided at groundbreaking.

The HOPE VI program has already facilitated the redevelopment of 80,000 housing units across the United States. There are approximately 60,000 units still in need of revitalization.

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